

Bits of Humor for the Home Circle and the Fireside

Unlucky suggestion.—A countryman went to London to visit some relatives and to see the sights. He remained until patience upon the part of his hosts, a married couple, had ceased to be a virtue.

"Don't you think, my dear fellow," remarked the husband one day, "that your wife and children miss you?"

"No doubt. Thanks for the suggestion. I'll send for them."

Fired him.—Hank—My brother sure was a dumb guy.

Frank—How's that?

Hank—Why, they had to burn down the schoolhouse to get him out of the first grade.

—Sun Dial.

He was fired.—The head of the large shop, while passing through the packing room, observed a boy lounging against a case of goods and whistling cheerily. The chief stopped and looked at him.

"How much do you get a week?" he demanded.

"Five dollars."

"Then here's a week's money. Now clear out!"

The boy pocketed the money and departed.

"When did we hire that boy?" the chief inquired of the departmental manager.

"Never," was the reply. "He had just brought a note from another firm."

Laugh that off! Copywriter—Johnny give me a sentence using the word diadem.

Office Boy—People who drink moonshine diadem sight quicker than those who don't.

Retort courteous. Special Rep.—Are you sure the advertising manager is not in?

Reception Room Sheba—Sa-ay, do you doubt his word, mister?

Hitting on all four. Dick, aged five, thinks in terms of automobiles rather than those of natural history. Startled by a dog, running swiftly and barking gruffly, he described the event vividly, exclaiming: "Daddy, he came tearing down the road with his cut-out open."

When he slipped.—An old farmer was carrying a pitcher of milk down to the cellar, when he slipped and fell to the bottom, jarring himself from head to foot. His wife called anxiously:

"John, did you break the pitcher?"

"No," replied John, earnestly and profanely, "but darned if I don't"

—From Everybody's Magazine.

Off guard.—"Yes, when she wasn't looking I kissed her."

"What did she do?"

"Refused to look at me for the rest of the evening.—The Progressive Grocer.

Save the life of flowers.—A florist recently tried a clever secret for pro-

longing the beauty of cut hothouse flowers especially roses. When the flowers have reached their prime at the first sign of fading drop an aspirin tablet into the water. The flowers will revive as if by magic and remain fresh and beautiful for several days longer.

—The Delineator.

Compassion

Captain Whetter—How much did the assessor tax you on your automobile?

Bill Roberts—Nothing. When I took him out to the garage and showed him the car, he took out his pocketbook and gave me ten dollars

—The Mirror.

Mamma's surprise. Marjory—Mamma, were you at home when I was born?

Mother—No, darling, I was at grandma's, in the country.

Marjory—Wasn't you awful, s'prised when you heard about it

—The Triangle.

Unanswerable Argument

This story of a terse, pointed presentation of the subject of life insurance comes from somewhere out West. The agent of a few words, but full of earnestness, sidled up to a native and said:

"Listen ter me a minute. A dog buries a bone fur a time when he's hungry, don't he?"

"A squirrel gethers nuts ter live on in winter, don't he?"

"Well, then, you oughter git ready for the hereafter, hadn't you? And most of all you oughter fix it so yer family couldn't be disgraced by havin' to go ter town and live when you die, and you be purty near cussed out o' yer grave by yer neighbors for not insuring yer life. Ain't that so?"

"Here, stick yer name on the bottom of this paper, and don't fergit who let yer in on the favor of havin' the biggest chance in yer whole life.

"That's right. Now come with me, and we'll go over ter the doc's and see if yer heart and guts is working' like they oughter."

—The Lifeman.

AMERICAN FIELDS AND FORESTS RAVAGED BY FOREIGN INSECTS

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enemies who seek it out on its own plane, destroying in a year immeasurably more weevils than man destroys with all his intelligence and machinery.

* * *

In this phase is the romance of the department's work. It has scientists searching the remotest corners of the earth for parasites and insects which may be brought to the United States to fight pests here. Bugs discovered possibly in the wilds of interior Asia or Africa are carefully transported to America and planted in the hope they may develop into killers of other insects.

The original introduction of pests like the boll weevil or the Japanese beetle into this country was accidental and the strange insects flourished because their natural enemies were not introduced with them to keep them down. The department is constantly searching for the

natural enemies of foreign insect pests and whenever found the enemies are brought here to be enlisted in the continual war being waged.

But in spite of the supreme efforts being made, the depredations of insect pests continue to increase annually. In this fact the department sees the grave danger for the future. And it is for this reason the department hurries to attack the first appearance of new insects in this country, anxious to subdue them before they become such a menace as the boll weevil became.

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